Applicant: Shell S. Simpson et al.
Serial No.:   09/816,699
Filed: 03/23/01
Docket No.   10008091-1
Title: System And Method For Determining The Time Required To Complete A Print Job

Remarks

Amendments to the Claims

The claims have been amended, as indicated above. The amendments to the indicated claims has been presented in accordance with the proposed revisions to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as set forth in 1267 OG 106 (25 February 2003). No new matter has been introduced through the amending of the claims.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz et al. in view of Streefkerk et al. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 1 presently recites a method for print job time estimating, wherein said method is comprised of the steps of: selecting a document to be printed by creating a document using a web application and storing a reference to the document in a user's profile and obtaining a target image of the document by interacting with a network service representing the document to obtain information about the document; selecting a first target printer; viewing a characteristic of the document on the first target printer home page; determining the amount of time required for the first target printer to print the document and, if necessary, selecting another target printer to print the document if the time for the first target printer to print the document is not acceptable ; and printing the document. While Lenz et al. disclose an identification card personalization device with a web browser, this reference does not teach, suggest or even appreciate, among other things, selecting a document to be printed by creating a document using a web application and storing a reference to the document in a user's profile and obtaining a target image of the document by interacting with a network service representing the document to obtain information about the document. In fact, Lenz et al. is silent with respect to this claimed method step. The system described in Lenz et al. is a closed system in the sense that the card generator and card printer are part of the same web

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site. The creation of the card document and the printing of that document are developed

specifically for that purpose. This would be similar to shipping a printer with a web-based word

processor, spreadsheet, etc. and only allowing the printer to be used to print documents created

with the applications embedded within it. In Lenz et al., it is easier to determine the amount of

time required to print since the printer only has to deal with a fixed set of documents.

Conversely, the present invention specifically addresses the process for calculating the

time required to print in an open web-based system where the applications and the printers are

autonomous. The web-based system described in the present invention is an improvement over

Lenz et al. because it allows the user significantly greater choice. The user is able to create

documents using a variety of applications and choose a printer without regard to the application

used to create the document. Although the web-based system described in the present invention

offers advantages, it introduces new challenges and opportunities—particularly in the area of

estimating the time required to print a job. It is important to point out that in the web-based

system envisioned in the present invention it becomes reasonable to easily retarget print data to

a new printer by simple browsing to that new printer. In fact, the personal imaging repository

makes it reasonable to print documents in general on the web (without this technology, printing is

cumbersome).

With respect to Streefkerk et al., while this reference discloses a printing system and

control method for printing images having a circle segment display element for visualizing print

job processing times and managing print jobs, this reference does not alleviate the myriad

problems associated with Lenz et. al. For example, Streefkerk et al does not teach, suggest, or

even appreciate the step of selecting a document to be printed by creating a document using a

web application and storing a reference to the document in a user's profile and obtaining a target

image of the document by interacting with a network service representing the document to obtain

information about the document.

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With respect to dependent claims 4-16, due to the fact that these claims are dependent upon independent claim 1, the Applicants contend that these claims are also allowable over the art of record.

With respect to independent claim 17, as discussed above, Lenz et al. does not teach, suggest or even appreciate, among other things, selecting a document to be printed <u>by creating a document using a web application and storing a reference to the document in a user's profile and obtaining a target image of the document by interacting with a network service representing the document to obtain information about the document</u>. As discussed above, Lenz et al. is silent with respect to this claimed method step. In fact, Lenz et al. is silent with respect to this claimed method step. The system described in Lenz et al. is a closed system in the sense that the card generator and card printer are part of the same web site. The creation of the card document and the printing of that document are developed specifically for that purpose. This would be similar to shipping a printer with a web-based word processor, spreadsheet, etc. and only allowing the printer to be used to print documents created with the applications embedded within it.

As discussed above with respect to Streefkerk et al., while this reference discloses a printing system and control method for printing images having a circle segment display element for visualizing print job processing times and managing print jobs, this reference does not alleviate the myriad problems associated with Lenz et. al. For example, Streefkerk et al does not teach, suggest, or even appreciate the step of selecting a document to be printed <u>by creating a document using a web application and storing a reference to the document in a user's profile and obtaining a target image of the document by interacting with a network service representing the document to obtain information about the document.</u> Therefore, the Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this case is in condition for allowance and now may be passed to issue forth with. A holding to this effect is respectfully requested. If,
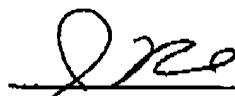
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in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this

patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney during normal

Pacific Time Zone business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Shell S. Simpson et. al.

Date: __10/13/05__   _____

                                            James R. McDaniel

                                            Reg. No. 34,481

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